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The Framework for Asset Management

“Leadership, commitment and dedication of key stakeholders across Michigan has been a vital element of the pilot as we work toward setting the foundation for improving Michigan’s Infrastructure now and for future generations.” – Governor Rick Snyder

The Michigan Asset Management pilot program, as established by the recommendations of the 21st Century Infrastructure Commission, continues to progress toward the development and implementation of an integrated asset management database system. To date, Michigan Prosperity Regions 4 and 10 have worked with the state, local governments and utilities to develop the process of integrating drinking water, stormwater, wastewater and transportation assets into a comprehensive program that will eventually be used to support integrated planning efforts across these assets. Numerous stakeholder team meetings, advisory board meetings, regional meetings and subject matter expert workshops, pulling together over 120 asset owners’ industry experts, have been collaborating and working diligently on defining the data and definitions that were most important for the pilot’s data collection process.

Gathered data on drinking water, stormwater, wastewater and transportation assets will help support the state’s understanding of these assets and enable the ability to make more informed decisions at the local, regional, and state level. While an important step in the pilot program, data collection is not the only objective of this endeavor. Pilot members have also been working on how we can build a culture of asset management throughout the state, develop consistency across asset owners in asset standards and management practices, and create processes for asset owner and statewide coordinated planning and communication.

Beginning the week of September 11, communities will receive data request packages that explain the data collection and submission process. Recognizing that the pilot program is a learning process, the goal is to make data collection as simple and efficient as possible. With this in mind, collected data could be received by way of GIS shapefile or Geodatabase containing the required assets & attributes listed in the data request Excel spreadsheets, completed data request Excel spreadsheets utilizing drop-down menus, or any other data format that the communities may already have. Data dictionaries, where necessary, will also be important to aid in the translation from local naming conventions to a uniform state-wide understanding of the data.

Technical teams from both Regions 4 and 10 will be working with the State of Michigan and Center for Shared Solutions to ensure all data will be accurately mapped and integrated with the state’s existing Michigan Geographic Framework technology. Further, security of the asset information has been a foremost priority, and as such, members of the Asset Management Pilot have put safeguards and procedures in place to help protect the transmission and hosting of all data submitted.

Going forward, collected data and feedback from the regions will help members of the pilot continue to identify system requirements for a demonstration database. The findings of this pilot, including what information the communities may or may not have, will additionally help determine what information will be included in the final state-wide asset management program as well as provide an overview of the availability of asset data across the state. By the conclusion of the pilot program, all participants of the project will be instrumental in helping to determine a framework for asset management across Michigan, identify barriers and solutions for common issues, and ultimately improve Michigan’s Infrastructure systems and enhance the quality of life for residents, communities, and businesses.

PILOT VISION

Michigan has:

- A culture of asset management across all infrastructure assets.
- A statewide assessment of our transportation, water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure.
- A long-term integrated asset management strategy that results in coordination and increased cost efficiencies for utilities and local agencies of all sizes.
- The data and information needed to determine funding levels, and the incentives needed, for strategic infrastructure investments.

PILOT MISSION

- Build a culture of asset management across the state.
- Develop consistency across asset owners in asset standards and management practices.
- Create mechanisms for coordinated planning and communication across asset owners and types statewide.
- Develop a system that will support our understanding of assets and enable us to make informed decisions at a local, regional and state level.

Meeting Update:

August 4, 2017 – Stakeholder/Advisory Board Meeting

Led by comments from John Walsh, who emphasized Governor Snyder's continued focus and prioritization on Michigan's Infrastructure, the pilot Stakeholder and Advisory Board members met to hear updates on the progress of the pilot program through interactive discussion and subject matter expert presentations. Consensus was gained on a number of fronts including the importance of data standardization and validation, project coordination and planning with energy and broadband, and the use of the collected data to help drive capital improvement planning and funding. Further agreement was established that documenting data in association with maturity and confidence levels was an important output of the pilot.

Preliminary discussions around IT system functionality brought about agreement that common data standards are needed as a means to better integrate and analyze data across a common language and to better enable collaboration. Costs and cost saving potential, governance, and statewide implementation were additional points of dialogue related to the database and its performance.

Meeting Update:

August 24, 2017 – Subject Matter Expert Workshop #3

Subject matter experts across drinking water, wastewater, stormwater and transportation gathered for a third workshop to collaboratively review and agree on the final asset data elements for the pilot program, and to discuss next steps in the data collection process. A comprehensive data request Excel worksheet was provided to guide the discussion, of which, broad consensus was reached. Presentations by DTMB's Rob Surber and Mark Holmes about the pilot's data collection approach and IT functionality, along with several key discussion points helped set the foundation for next steps:

- The data collection process should be simple and expedient, allowing for multiple submission formats to not only enable communities an effective method of providing the requested data but also generate increase participation.
- A primary goal of the pilot across all asset classes and the data collection process is to learn what data is important and what to include as we work toward an integrated state-wide system.
- A subsequent goal of the pilot is to determine what we know regarding our assets, how many different formats exist, where gaps are evident, how confident we are in the data we have, and what types of quality control checks need to be implemented.
- PROJECT data across asset classes will provide the basis for more effective cross-asset collaboration.
- The pilot will assess data coming in and decipher what value specific functionality can provide as part of the analysis. However, it was emphasized that this is only the first steps in the process for a statewide program. The ultimate system may look very different than the pilot demonstration, with the goal of the pilot to help guide Michigan toward a more informed, functional, and value system for the state.

Meeting Update:

August 30, 2017 – Stakeholder Committee Meeting

The August Stakeholder Committee meeting reviewed the discussions and outcomes of the third subject matter expert workshop and overall progress of the pilot program to date.

Governor Snyder attended the meeting to speak with the Stakeholder group about the value of partnership he has seen throughout the pilot project between our state and local governments, and across the communities and regions. The governor thanked the group for their leadership, commitment, and dedication, noting that ALL stakeholders who have been involved in the pilot process are the forerunners in improving Michigan's infrastructure now and for decades to come.

Upcoming Meetings

September 20

West Michigan 21st Century Infrastructure Asset Management Pilot and the West Michigan Municipal Executives Association Luncheon
12:00 p.m. at the Walker City Hall
Walker, MI

September 19

SEMCOG Regional Pilot Team Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the SEMCOG Headquarters
Detroit, MI

September 28

SEMCOG University: Infrastructure Asset Management Pilot
9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the SEMCOG Headquarters
Detroit, MI

September 29

Stakeholder Committee Meeting
9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Lansing, MI

Next Steps

1. Data packets sent out beginning this week.
2. Data collection process will be underway through November 1st.
3. Deadline to turn in Data Sharing Agreements is December 15th.
4. Conversations on coordination, communication and potential data opportunities with the Communications and Utilities groups are continuing.
5. Continued discussion on gas/electric capital improvement program data and its contribution to the pilot process.

Reminder

You can access applicable meeting notes, resources, and presentations on the MI Infrastructure Asset Management pilot SharePoint site. If you do not have an account set up please contact Therese Empie at empieT@michigan.gov for additional information.

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